

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY
INFORMATION REPORT

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COUNTRY	Czechoslovakia	REPORT	
SUBJECT	Brno Armament Works, Branch Factory at Opocno	DATE DISTR.	23 August 1954
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This is UNEVALUATED

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THE SOURCE EVALUATIONS IN THIS REPORT ARE DEFINITIVE.
 THE APPRAISAL OF CONTENT IS TENTATIVE.
 (FOR KEY SEE REVERSE)

1. The branch factory of the Brno Armament Works (Zbrojovka Brno) at Opocno (051/G91) was formerly owned by Karel Dusek and produced shotguns and pistols. In 1949 it was nationalized and taken over by Zbrojovka Brno. Until 1923 Dusek had only one small workshop (see sketch, No. 6), next to the hospital. The present workshop (No. 4) was built in 1923. The old workshop is still being used, but will probably be closed. In the spring of 1953 Zbrojovka also took over the former dairy (No. 5) which is now being adapted to form part of the arms factory. 25X1
2. The main factory building is a brick two-story building of approximately 300 x 200 meters. The entrance is at the south side (No. 2). The factory offices are in the small house which was the former private dwelling of Dusek. Shooting ranges are located behind the main building and are fenced off. The exact location of the ranges is not known.
3. The former dairy building has three stories, of brick, approximately 100 x 5 m.; it is in process of reconstruction. The dairy machines have been removed and work should have been completed by spring 1954. An iron railing has recently been put up in front of this building. On the same side, two large garages, 20 x 5 meters, are under construction. Tools and machinery are being installed in the new building. It is planned to erect more workshops during 1954 and 1955.
4. Director of the factory is Eng. Vaclav Bartak, who was transferred here from Brno in the summer of 1952.
5. The factory produces the following weapons:
 - a. Pistols 6.35, Mark Duo
 - b. Airguns of unknown caliber
 - c. Shotguns which are at present manufactured only in the old workshop in the town (No. 6). Production of these shotguns may be discontinued this year (sic).

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STATE	X	ARMY	X	NAVY	X	AIR	X	FBI		AEC		ORR	EV	X		
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(NOTE: Washington distribution indicated by "X"; Field distribution by "#".)

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Pistols are manufactured for Czech state police and for export to China and North Korea. Airguns are only for export to China and North Korea. Production suffers from irregular supplies and defects of materials. For instance, the rods used in the manufacture of barrels are delivered in bundles of 500 and sometimes as many as 200 are rejects.

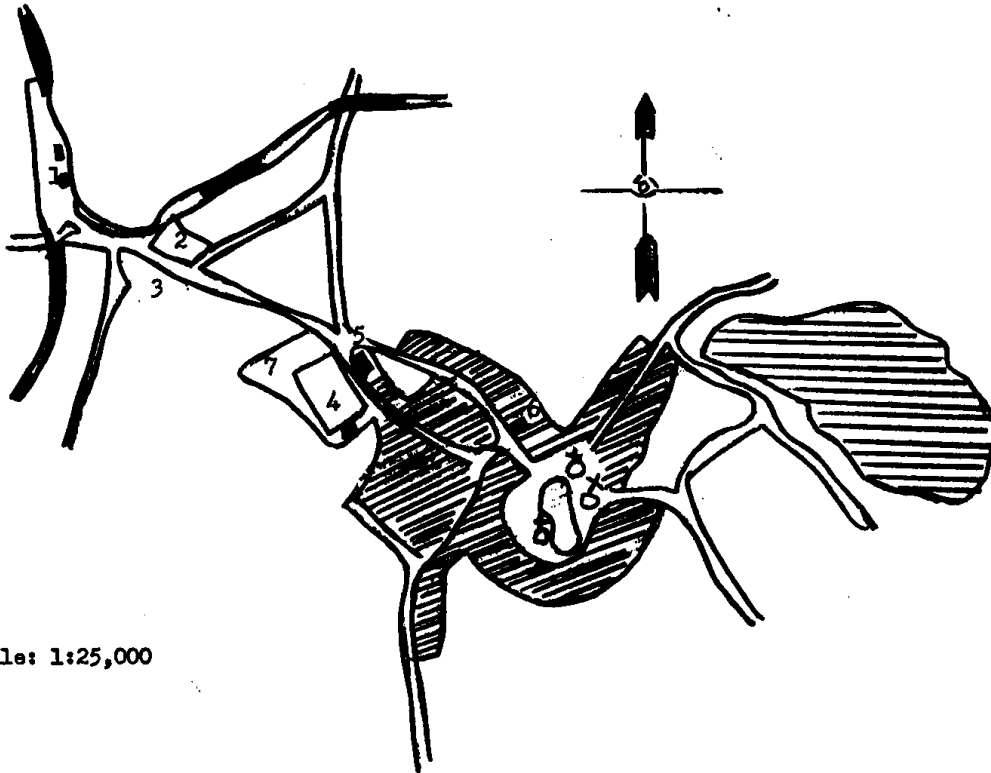
6. All work is carried out according to norms, and skilled workers earn from 900-1100 Kcs. net monthly; unskilled workers 700-900 Kcs. When work is held up by shortages of material, workers are sometimes sent to help on the building sites, their wages then being reduced to 600-700 Kcs. monthly. This naturally causes much discontent.
7. It was reckoned that working 2 shifts, starting in December 1953, the plan would be fulfilled by 70% by the end of 1954. Production was held up during October and November 1953 as no material was available. In December there was a severe electric power cut and it was feared that not even 70% of the plans would be fulfilled.
8. The main building is constantly guarded by two civilian guards armed with pistols. They wear red bands on the left arm and patrol inside the fence. Since August 1953 there has also been one guard in the old dairy building.

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Zbrojovka Brno-Branch Factory Opocno (formerly Arms Factory K. Dusek)

Scale: 1:25,000

Legend:

1. Main station, Opocno.
2. New dairy-formerly sugarbeet factory.
3. State farm.
4. Arms factory.
5. Old dairy, now under construction, to be included in Arms Factory.
6. Workshop of Arms Factory in town.
7. Shooting ranges.

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